

Message Text

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ACTION SS-15

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 PRS-01 ISO-00 NSC-05 SSO-00
NSCE-00 A-01 OC-06 CCO-00 CPR-01 SY-05 USIE-00
CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02 SP-02 INRE-00
ACDA-10 PM-04 /085 W
-----302037Z 064198 /50

Z O 302002Z MAR 77 ZFF4
FM USDEL SECRETARY IN MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC FLASH
USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE
USMISSION NATO IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL LENINGRAD IMMEDIATE
USDEL MBFR VIENNA IMMEDIATE
USIO GENEVA IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS SECTO 3050

FOR S/PRS; DEPARTMENT PASS NSC FOR DR. BRZEZINSKI AND
WHITE HOUSE FOR MR. POWELL; USIA FOR IPS/PE, IEU

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SOPN, PFOR, OVIP (VANCE, CYRUS R)
SUBJECT: SECVISIT

REF: STATE 056619

FOLLOWING IS TRANSCRIPT OF OPENING STATEMENT BY SECRETARY
VANCE AT PRESS CONFERENCE MARCH 30, 2015 HOURS. QUESTION
AND ANSWER SESSION WILL FOLLOW BY SEPTTEL:

(BEGIN TEXT)

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SECRETARY VANCE: GOOD EVENING. LET ME FILL YOU IN ON
OUR MEETING OF THIS AFTERNOON. WE MET THIS AFTERNOON
WITH GENERAL SECRETARY BREZHNEV AND FOREIGN MINISTER
GROMYKO AND OTHER OFFICIALS. AT THAT MEETING THE
SOVIETS TOLD US THAT THEY HAD EXAMINED OUR TWO PROPOSALS
AND DID NOT FIND EITHER ACCEPTABLE. THEY PROPOSED
NOTHING NEW ON THEIR SIDE. LET ME GIVE YOU A BRIEF OUT-

LINE, AS I PROMISED I WOULD WHEN WE REACHED THIS POINT, ON THE NATURE OF THE TWO PROPOSALS WHICH WE PUT FORWARD. THE FIRST PROPOSED WHAT WE HAD CALLED OUR DEFERRAL PROPOSALS. UNDER THIS PROPOSAL WE SUGGESTED THE DEFERRAL OF CONSIDERATION OF THE CRUISE MISSILE AND BACKFIRE BOMBER ISSUES AND THAT WE RESOLVE ALL OTHER REMAINING ISSUES UNDER THE VLADIVOSTOK ACCORD AND SIGN A NEW TREATY. THE PROPOSAL IS ONLY CONSISTENT WITH THE AGREEMENT REACHED AT VLADIVOSTOK, AS YOU KNOW, AND THERE WAS NO AGREEMENT REACHED AT VLADIVOSTOK WITH RESPECT TO EITHER CRUISE MISSILES OR THE BACKFIRE BOMBER AND THEREFORE THEY HAVE BEEN AND ARE OPEN ISSUES. SO IN ESSENCE OUR PROPOSAL WAS: LET'S SIGN UP WHAT HAS BEEN AGREED AT VLADIVOSTOK AND PUT ASIDE THE CRUISE MISSILE AND GET ON WITH SALT III. AS AN ALTERNATIVE, AND WHAT WE HAVE REFERRED TO AS THE COMPREHENSIVE PROPOSAL, THE ONE THAT WE PREFERRED AND URGED THAT THEY GIVE SERIOUS CONSIDERATION TO WAS A PROPOSAL WHICH WOULD HAVE REALLY MADE SUBSTANTIVE PROGRESS TOWARDS TRUE ARMS CONTROL. IT HAD IN IT FOUR ELEMENTS OR HAS IN IT FOUR ELEMENTS. LET ME RUN THROUGH THEM BRIEFLY WITH YOU. THE FIRST DEALS WITH AGGREGATES. WE PROPOSED THAT THERE BE A SUBSTANTIAL REDUCTION IN THE OVERALL AGGREGATE OF STRATEGIC DELIVERY VEHICLES. SECOND, WE PROPOSED THAT THERE BE A REDUCTION IN THE NUMBER OF WHAT ARE CALLED MODERN LARGE BALLISTIC MISSILE LAUNCHERS. THIRDLY, WE PROPOSED THAT THERE BE A REDUCTION IN THE MIRV LAUNCHER AGGREGATE. AND FOURTH, WE PROPOSED

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THAT THERE BE A LIMIT ON THE LAUNCHERS OF ICBMS EQUIPPED WITH MIRVS. IN OTHER WORDS, WE PROPOSED A SUB-LIMIT IN THAT AREA. GOING ON TO ICBM RESTRICTIONS, WE PROPOSED THAT THERE CONTINUE TO BE A BAN ON CONSTRUCTION OF NEW ICBM LAUNCHERS. WE PROPOSED IN ADDITION A BAN ON MODIFICATION OF EXISTING ICBMS. IN ADDITION TO THAT WE PROPOSED A LIMIT ON THE NUMBER OF FLIGHT TESTS FOR EXISTING ICBMS. WE PROPOSED IN ADDITION A BAN ON THE DEVELOPMENT, THE TESTING AND DEPLOYMENT OF NEW ICBMS. IN ADDITION TO THAT WE PROPOSED A BAN ON THE DEVELOPMENT, TESTING, AND DEPLOYMENT OF MOBILE ICBM LAUNCHERS. WITH RESPECT TO CRUISE MISSILES, WE PROPOSED A BAN ON THE DEVELOPMENT, TESTING, AND DEPLOYMENT OF ALL CRUISE MISSILES WHETHER NUCLEAR ARMED OR CONVENTIONALLY-ARMED WITH RANGES THAT WERE NOT INTERCONTINENTAL RANGES. IN OTHER WORDS, WE SET A LIMIT. I'M NOT GOING TO GIVE YOU THAT PRECISE NUMBER, BUT THERE WAS A SPECIFIC NUMBER OVER WHICH THEY WOULD BE BANNED, AND THAT LIMIT WAS THE LIMIT BETWEEN

INTERCONTINENTAL AND NON-INTERCONTINENTAL. FINALLY,
WITH RESPECT TO THE BACKFIRE BOMBER, WE INDICATED
THAT WE WANT THEM TO PROVIDE US WITH A LIST OF MEASURES
TO ASSURE THAT THE BACKFIRE BOMBER WOULD NOT BE USED AS
A STRATEGIC BOMBER. THAT IN ESSENCE IS THE COMPRE-
HENSIVE PACKAGE WHICH WE PUT FORWARD. WE AGREED TO
CONTINUE DISCUSSIONS IN THE FUTURE. FOREIGN MINISTER
GROMYKO AND I WILL BE MEETING IN MAY TO DISCUSS THE
MIDDLE EAST, AND OTHER ITEMS INCLUDING STRATEGIC ARMS
LIMITATION. IN ADDITION TO THAT, WE HAVE AGREED TO SET
UP A NUMBER OF WORKING GROUPS IN VARIOUS AREAS TO FOLLOW
ON ON THE DISCUSSIONS WHICH WE HAVE HAD HERE IN MOSCOW.
LET ME GIVE YOU A LIST OF THE AREAS IN WHICH WE WILL
HAVE THESE FOLLOW-ON WORKING GROUPS. THEY INCLUDE
THE AREA OF COMPREHENSIVE TEST BANS, THE AREA OF
CHEMICAL WEAPONS, THE AREA OF PRIOR NOTIFICATION OF
MISSILE TEST FIRING; THE AREA OF ANTI-SATELLITE WEAPONS;
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THE AREA OF CIVIL DEFENSE; THE AREA OF POSSIBLE MILITARY
LIMITATIONS IN THE INDIAN OCEAN; THE AREA OF
RADIOLOGICAL WEAPONS; THE AREA OF CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS;
AND WE AGREED TO SET UP A REGULAR SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS
TO DEAL WITH THE WHOLE QUESTION OF PROLIFERATION.
THAT IS THE SUMMARY OF WHERE WE ARE AT THIS POINT.
VANCE

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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